(d) if so, whether Government have evolved any mechanism to monitor the situation;

(e) whether there is any proposals to bring a uniform syllabus in schools across the country; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) and (b) Most of the States/Union Territories have their own Examination Board which prescribe syllabi and textbooks for schools affiliated to these Boards. The respective State Directorates along with State Council of Educational Research and Training (SCERT) prepare textbooks. Schools affiliated to Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) follow the curriculum prescribed by CBSE for classes 9 to 12 and the curriculum prepared by NCERT for clases 1 to 8. Some Schools run by religious or social organizations follow their own textbooks. The number of such schools is not centrally maintained in the Ministry.

(c) and (d) A report of a Sub-comittee under the Central Advisory Board of Education (CABE) has pointed out that some textbooks produced by social and religious organizations reflect baises and distortions. The Sub-Committee under CABE has recommended institution of a National Textbooks Council to monitor textbooks.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

Different electricity rates in NDMC and MCD areas

*92. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are two sets of rates of electricity in Delhi-one for consumers living in NDMC areas and the other for rest of Delhi, if so, the reasons for the discriminatory rates; and

(b) whether Government propose to do away with the discriminatory rates, if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The tariff for consumers living in Distribution Companies (DISCOMS) areas under Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) is different from the tariff for New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC) area.

Tariffs for various categories of consumers of a distribution licensee are determined by the State Regulatory Commissions in accordance with the provisions of the Electricity Act, 2003. The State Government has powers under the Act to give policy directions in public interest to the SERC. The tariff rate for various categories of consumers for a DISCOM in Delhi is determined by the Delhi Electricity Regulatory Commission (DERC).

The tariff of electricity depends on the overall power purchase cost as well as the operational and financial performance of the Distribution Companies (DISCOMs), that is, Aggregate Technical and Commercial (AT&C) losses, operational expenses, capital investment for system upgradation/augmentation etc.

The tariff of National Capital territory of Delhi for geographical areas which are serviced by the North Delhi Power Limited (NDPL), BSES Yamuna Power Limited (BYPL) and BSES Rajdhani Power Limited (BRPL) are governed by the policy directions issued by the Government of NCT of Delhi in relation to the restructuring of the erstwhile Delhi Vidyut Board. As a matter of Policy, the Government of NCT of Delhi had decided that retail tariff for the three Distribution Licensees shall be identical till the end of 2006-07 *i.e.* consumers of a particular category shall pay the same retail tariffs irrespective of their geographical location. These policy directives are not applicable to the New Delhi Municipal Counci (NDMC) and the tariff in the NDMC.

As the NDMC is having a revenue surplus due to low Aggregate Technical & Commercial (AT&C) loss, DERC in its order has stated that there is no need to increase tariff in the area served by NDMC. Though the privatised distribution companies have brought down the AT&C losses below the levels targeted at the time of privatisation, these losses are still higher than those in NDMC area.